Export of skeletons and skulls

1654. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding large scale export of skeletons and skulls surreptitiously to Bangladesh for onward transmission to Western and other countries;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have imposed a ban on the export of human skulls and skeletons; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to stop this nefarious and illegal trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. A complaint has been received regarding unauthorised export of skulls and skeletons to Bangladesh.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The export of human skulls and skeletons has been banned including pre-ban commitments.

Liberalisation of term lending limits of banks

1655. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering liberalisation of term lending limits of the commercial banks; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that with effect from October 10, 1988, its prior authorisation for grant of term loans exceeding Rs. two cores by Banks has been dispensed with. Where term loan is sanctioned by banks in participation with financial institutions, the share of banking system has not to exceed 25 per cent. Banks are required to report to Reserve Bank of India for post sanction scrutiny, all sanctions of term loans where the share of banking system exceed Rs. two crores. It is also reported that there is no proposal to further modify these terms for the present.

Ceiling for composite loans under differential rate of interest scheme

1656. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has turned down the proposal for raising the present ceiling for composite loans under differential rate of interest scheme;

(b) if so, what were the main reasons for raising the ceiling and whether it is a fact that the maximum amount of loan of Rs. 6500 has not been given to any sizeable number of beneficiaries and the per capita loan disbursement under the scheme has not exceeded; and

(c) what was the per capita loan disbursement under the scheme from 1983 onwards and what are the main reasons for turning down the proposal for raising the ceiling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised that any modification in the parameters of the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme including the enhancement of the loan ceiling would disturb the inter se position of the scheme *vis-a-vis* other Government sponsored schemes specifically designed for the upliftment of the weather section of society. The Task Force set up by the Government in the year 1983 to re-